

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action mailed May 12, 2005 has been carefully considered. Reconsideration in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

With this amendment it is respectfully submitted the claims satisfy the statutory requirements.

The 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph Rejection

Claims 1-54 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, “because the specification, while being enabling for deallocating an IP address back to the local IP address pool, does not reasonably provide enablement for deallocating an IP address back to the local IP address pool *under the condition that the IP address is unused* (emphasis added).”

Claims 1, 13, 25, 37, and 51-54 have been amended to make clear that the IP address is deallocated back if the IP address is relinquished by a remote user. Support for these modifications may be found in the Specification, paragraphs 41 and 57. As such, Applicant respectfully maintains that the 35 U.S.C. 112 rejection is no longer proper.

As to dependent claims 2-12, 14-24, 26-36 and 38-50, the argument set forth above is equally applicable here. The base claims being allowable, the dependent claims must also be allowable.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully asserted that the claims are now in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

It is believed that this Amendment places the above-identified patent application into condition for allowance. Early favorable consideration of this Amendment is earnestly solicited.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, an interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the number indicated below.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. Please charge any additional required fee or credit any overpayment not otherwise paid or credited to our deposit account No. 50-1698.

Respectfully submitted,

THELEN REID & PRIEST, LLP

Dated: 6/14/05



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